

# ANNUAL REPORT



PARKS & LEISURE  
AUSTRALIA

2017-2018



## NATIONAL OFFICE

Chief Executive Officer  
Mark Band

Manager, Marketing and  
Communications  
Nicoll Parton

Conference Coordinator  
Cathy D'Aloia

Office Manager  
Lina Court

Finance Officer  
Kirsty Newman

Membership Officer  
Aldona Pretty

Products & Services Manager  
Jenny O'Brien

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Deputy President  
Paul Jane

Finance Director  
Tim Sargent

Les Munn (NSW/ACT)  
Anand Pillay (QLD)  
Sue Suter (SA/NT)  
Paul Jane (VIC/TAS)  
Rachel Thorpe (WA)

Co-opted Members  
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Barbra Gaiotto  
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We sincerely thank our national  
partners for their support.



MOORE STEPHENS



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# NATIONAL PRESIDENT REPORT



Martin Lambert  
President

**NONE OF OUR  
SUCCESS WOULD  
BE POSSIBLE  
WITHOUT THE  
DEDICATED  
WORK OF OUR  
VOLUNTEER  
BOARD MEMBERS  
AND COMMITTEE  
CHAIRS.**

Looking back at the last year I can only say I am extremely pleased at what PLA has been able to achieve.

As an organisation we continue to improve our services to members and our management and administration of Parks and Leisure Australia. Some of our achievements include:

- A very successful conference at the Gold Coast in 2017
- Finalisation and implementation of a transformation plan for the website and the membership structure.
- Continued development of position papers and advocacy statements
- Further development of partnership projects with Ausplay and continued engagement with Sport Australia
- PLA representation at a number of international conferences including presenting master classes and industry overviews
- Our industry partnerships and sponsor relationships continue to grow
- Implementation of the new professional certification program (Certified Parks and Leisure Professional).
- PLA becoming the Australian administrator of the Green Flag Program
- Our regions continued to get stronger and more resilient with state conferences and a number of successful professional development events
- Securing the partnership with World Urban Parks to co-host the world congress in Melbourne
- The PLA Advisory managed partnership with the trustees of a legacy fund to develop a new resources library "PaRC".
- An improved focus on developing our products and services and tailoring programs to different sectors in our industry
- The launch last year of the Generate Australia program for young and emerging professionals which partners with Generate New Zealand
- Increased recognition of PLA as the peak industry body at state and national levels with new opportunities for comment on policy and collaboration on program design, achieving some significant shifts in policy implementation

And there are lots more which you will hear about from others.

None of our success would be possible without the dedicated work of our volunteer board members and committee chairs. Our national board members have a portfolio they are responsible for and along with full time work responsibilities dedicate their spare hours to PLA. Then there are our major achievers running the Conference Committee and PLA Advisory.

But without the efforts of Mark our CEO, and his team of dedicated professionals we would not have got anywhere. The multiple challenges of keeping the organisation well managed while undertaking a major transformation of our infrastructure and developing new products and services would have daunted even the most experienced and the head office team excelled.

So in short, a massive and loud THANK YOU to everyone who made this last year so successful and especially to the staff who take all the enquiries and phone calls dealing with individuals and regional councils, sponsors, suppliers, and left field questions. Throughout it all they are always polite, professional and helpful.

As some of you may know, this is my last year as National President. I have of course enjoyed the time and yes there have been challenges- but it is great to see the industry and our organisation developing so well.

I do feel as if our messages about the importance of what we do, and the importance of providing the spaces and places that make our cities healthy, happy and successful, is finally being more broadly acknowledged.

There is still a lot of work to do to transform our urban planning and city management paradigms further and create the understanding that spending on parks and leisure, sport and recreation, greenspaces and conservation, is not a cost. It is an investment, one that pays multiple and ongoing dividends for our economy and our society.

Thanks for a great year, stay involved and continue to explain to your colleagues why our industry is so important.

Cheers,

Marty

# CEO REPORT



Mark Band  
CEO

With another year behind us, I'm now beginning to feel that we are starting to make some significant in-roads and changes which are benefiting not only the organisation, but more importantly members and the broader industry alike.

Being an organisation with a mission to service and advocate on behalf of our members and the broader parks and leisure industry, the development of the new web has been pivotal in ensuring we achieve this and will have many new functions and capabilities. This includes encouraging greater dialogue and information sharing, pathways for professional development, state of the art access to our resources and journal, and access to a suite of researched articles and information to help us all in our jobs as the people behind the places.

This year we have also launched the Green Flag Awards which, whilst in its infancy in Australia, has almost 2000 recognised parks across the globe that are benefiting from a quality assurance programme to enhance management and visitor experience. I was fortunate enough to have attended an Awards Ceremony in London in July with over 250 people in attendance. The programme has gathered great momentum across the UK and is becoming a benchmark for park management globally and one in which we can learn from and tailor to the Australian environment.

We have also established close ties with Sport Australia (Australian Sports Commission) and are now on the agenda for the importance

of local parks and sporting facilities in developing healthy communities and pathways to sporting excellence. I have met with the Prime Minister's Office in August and the strengthening of this relationship and the Active Communities branch of Sport Australia will continue to be a priority for PLA in the coming year. The Certified Parks and Leisure Professional (CPLP) was first implemented last financial year and with a steady push and awareness, will hopefully become the benchmark for professional recognition within our industry. I would personally like to thank Rachel Thorpe who has worked closely with myself in getting this established and a big thank you to Neal Ames from Parks Victoria who has been the conduit between PLA and the World Parks Academy that assess applications recommended by PLA. The next phase of this is the roll out of the Certified Parks and Leisure Certificate (CPLC) which will be a stepping stone for those that may not be ready to achieve CPLP status or for newcomers to the industry.

At the time of writing my annual report, the new membership structure was almost ready to be launched and to date we have had positive feedback regarding its intent and pricing structure. The new system aligns with our objective to service the whole parks and leisure industry and of course encourage interaction and information sharing with and between members and partners both here in Australia and overseas.

As I mentioned at last year's AGM, the last five years for PLA have been about organisational stability and cultural change. In a competitive world, we can no longer rest on our laurels of break even if we want to continue to support and develop our industry. This has been at the forefront of change and the positive returns once again this year are testament to a whole team approach from across the nation including the amazing support of our national sponsors and partners in GLG GreenLife Group, Syngenta Australia, Toro, Tennis Australia, Belgravia Leisure, Christie, KWP, Moore Stephens and our Generate Network partner Otium Planning Group.

The work of the Regional Councils and their Executive Officers has also been exemplary and I would personally like to thank all the volunteer committees and their respective EO's in Tracy Barkham (QLD), Bethanie Tobin (NSW/ACT), Richard and Pamela Simon (VIC/TAS), Peta Coughlin and the incoming Alison Bretones (SA/NT) and Leith Fradd (WA) who have all excelled in their roles for their respective regions and as a team are collectively driving the shared vision for the organisation as a whole.

Behind the scenes are also a number of volunteers, and whilst

too numerous to mention individually, include the PLA Advisory Committee chaired by Andy Smith and the Conference Committee chaired by John Senior. The assistance of the World Urban Parks (WUP) staff in Canada is also acknowledged and I would like to thank CEO Neil McCarthy and the WUP Board for allowing us the opportunity to partner with them to host the World Congress in Melbourne.

The work of our own National Board can also not go unnoticed and the input and strategic leadership it has provided now means we are very focused on our goals and objectives. I would like to thank each and every one of them for their commitment and input in getting PLA to where it is today and a personal thank you to the Executive in Marty Lambert (President), Paul Jane (Deputy President) and Tim Sargent (Finance Director), for their ongoing support for me and my staff.

Finally, and certainly not least, a special thank you to the National Office staff that have supported me and the organisation with commitment and enthusiasm again this year. Two new staff have come on board including Jenny O'Brien (Products and Services) and Aldona Pretty (Membership) so welcome and thank you for your efforts this year.

A special thank you to Nicoll Parton in her newly focused role as the National Marketing and Communications Manager and of course her work in coordinating the development of the new website amongst many other things; Cathy D'Aloia for taking complete carriage as the Professional Conference Organiser (PCO) for PLA and running an extremely professional and tight programme with the direction of the conference committee; Kirsty Newman for keeping our books (and spending) in check as the National Finance Officer; and finally to our National Office Manager, Lina Court for her work in coordinating the National Awards, national office functions and generally keeping me in line.

On a closing note, a thank you to you our members who continue to support your professional association. As a not for profit organisation run by the industry for the industry with any surpluses directed back to servicing you, I thank you for your support in making PLA what it is today and of course your role as the people behind the places creating great opportunities for the good use of leisure time for all Australians.

BEING AN ORGANISATION WITH A MISSION  
TO SERVICE AND ADVOCATE ON BEHALF OF  
OUR MEMBERS AND THE BROADER PARKS AND  
LEISURE INDUSTRY, THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE  
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WE ACHIEVE THIS AND WILL HAVE MANY NEW  
FUNCTIONS AND CAPABILITIES

# FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT



Tim Sargent  
Finance Director

I am pleased to report that the association has reported a **surplus for the year of \$122,152** which is a similar result to the surplus of \$115,163 reported the year before.

In my opinion the **closer regular monitoring** of the performance against the budget set by each state has created the **accountability** required to ensure we achieved surplus results end year. We also see far better financial planning of the National Conference which continues to play a significant role in the end of year surpluses for the organisation.

Main points to highlight with respect to the 2018 Financial Statements are as follows:

- **Revenue from operations is up from \$1,529,523 to \$1,856,388 which represents an 18% increase. The two main drivers of this growth has been the National Conference and Sponsorship. To have growth in dollars of \$288,246 and \$67,860 respectively in these areas of revenue is pleasing in the environment we currently exist in as it means the organisation is remaining relevant to its stakeholders.**

- In the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income we recognise an **income tax benefit of \$102,311** which states the value the association has in carried forward tax losses.

- The Statement of Financial Position shows our net equity position has improved from \$412,394 to \$636,857 from the previous financial year. This puts the organisation in a far stronger position than where we were back in 2015 when our equity position was at just over \$60,000.

- Current Assets to Current Liabilities show that we have an excess of **\$391,356 (prior year \$296,863)** meaning that for every \$1 of liabilities we have \$1.59 of short term assets which provides comfort that Parks & Leisure has sufficient liquidity (cash flow) to be able to pay our debts as and when they fall due.

The **budget set for the 2018/19 year shows that the organisation is targeting another surplus** of just over \$70,000 meaning Parks and Leisure Australia is getting stronger in both cash flow and long term stability. This is a great position for the organisation to be in as the Board can make decisions about how best we invest in our surpluses for the benefit of our members.

Finally, I would like to thank the other Board members for the input and support in making Parks and Leisure Australia where it exists today. I look forward to having another (12) months of strong financial growth.



**PARKS AND LEISURE  
AUSTRALIA IS GETTING  
STRONGER IN BOTH  
CASH FLOW AND  
LONG TERM STABILITY**



# NSW/ACT PRESIDENT REPORT



Les Munn  
President  
NSW/ACT

NSW/ACT has continued to go from strength to strength over the last 12 months. We are fortunate in that we have a very talented and committed group of individuals who blend beautifully as a team and work closely with our very professional Executive Officer Bethanie Tobin who managed to deliver a top class program of seminars, field days and training courses for our members. This was topped off with our most successful regional conference ever.

We started the year in July with our Outdoor Playground Operators Level 2 inspection course in Cessnock followed by a second course in Dubbo during March 2018. In September, a grants and funding seminar was held and in November, in partnership with Andreasens Green and the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA), PLA staged a Green Infrastructure – Focus on Trees event which attracted over 100 people.

In the same month, a seminar on Threats and Risks at Community Events was also very well attended. We finished the year with a Christmas function which incorporated a discussion group and then a tour of the acclaimed Ian Potter Wildplay Garden in Centennial Parklands followed by some Christmas cheer and socialising / networking at a local establishment.

As we all know, December and January are pretty quiet in the industry and so the only event staged early in the year was a seminar on Smart Parks which delved into the advances in technology and how this can be of enormous value to everyone in the recreation industry.

The main focus for the committee was then the annual NSW/ACT Regional Conference. A conference committee was established which contained not only board members, but also staff from the host council (Tamworth), who had won the expression of interest,

and members from the Office of Sport who were one of our Principal sponsors for the event. The newly created Office of Open Space and Parklands came on board as a Principal conference partner and GLG GreenLife Group joined the Office of Sport and Tamworth Regional Council as Principal conference sponsors.

The event was staged over two days with impressive keynote speakers including Kate Jenkins, the Sex Discrimination Commissioner and Molly Taylor, the 2016 Australian Rally Champion. The Conference was our most successful ever with 143 registrations which was an increase of 19% on 2017.

During the year, we also signed up two new principal sponsors in Sam the Paving Man and Marsupial and also continued our relationship with Kompan, Andreasens Green, GLG GreenLife Group, Syngenta and Christie.

Over the past 12 months, the Regional Council has continued to pursue sponsorship opportunities whilst also focussing on delivering a solid program of seminars and field days for our members. Following successful negotiations with the University of Technology Sydney, we were able to expand our partnership to allow for the running of Playground Accreditation Training courses in the metropolitan area of Sydney which then gives PLA access to all Sydney councils.

Overall, it was an extremely eventful and successful year. Unfortunately Adam Gray resigned as treasurer but has been taken by Sam Eriksson from Tamworth Regional Council. The Board continues to function smoothly and I wish to thank them for their dedication to PLA. I also wish to give a big thankyou to our hardworking Executive Officer Bethanie, who works tirelessly to ensure we deliver the most professional product possible for our members.

A large, curved, purple-tinted image on the left side of the page. It shows a group of people walking along a path in a park. In the background, there is a large, arched stone structure, possibly a bridge or a tunnel entrance. The scene is outdoors with trees and foliage.

**OVERALL, IT WAS  
AN EXTREMELY  
EVENTFUL AND  
SUCCESSFUL YEAR.**

# QLD PRESIDENT REPORT



Frances Hudson  
President  
QLD

The sun shone gold as Gold Coast took centre stage in October 2017 “Open for Business” National Conference with master classes, workshops and technical tours and professionals sharing management, planning and technological and consultative insights from across the world.

From our 2017 regional winners, Sport Recreation Services went on to take out the national Best Use of Technology Award of Excellence for the Queensland Government’s SRS Spatial initiative. Congratulations to this small team who developed spatial technology to assist the sport and recreation industry in Queensland with planning and evidence-based funding allocation.

How quick after the National Conference the end of year seemed to roll on with a few attending a social get together and a small Christmas lunch at the Roma Street Parklands.

2018 kicked off well with 30 attendees to the Sports Lighting Forum; that gave us a good look at the future of such critical infrastructure. The forum was possible through a great partnership with the Brisbane City Council.

In April our Regional Council members reviewed and made a submission on the proposed \$100M masterplan for the Oxley Creek Transformation. Being able to provide feedback on future initiatives and the investment to establish new leisure and recreation facilities, economic hubs, cultural heritage interpretation, environmental education and connections on this unique 26,000ha site for people and wildlife is fundamental to PLA’s objectives.

In April 2018 elite sports, community pride, and excellence in facilities design were taken to the world through the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. Many across our industry were involved in this inspirational and massively successful event, from planners, event managers, volunteers, officials, right through to the athletes themselves. Beyond the Legacy of the Games has spread across Queensland with the re-use and purposing of facilities, equipment and furniture.

The Place Measurement workshop in partnership with Place Score in May, may have been challenging the status quo, but was gratefully appreciated by those that attended. Networking through local government forums also provided new insights to the great happenings in this arena.

Thanks to those that helped, particularly our key partner Moreton Bay Regional Council, in delivering the successful 2018 State Conference “Creating a Liveable Community” in late May. More than 150 attended the tech tour and 2 days, being inspired by Dr. Jenny Veitch of Deakin University sharing evidenced based design research as being critical in guiding investment and delivering on the benefits of ‘healthy and activity living’. With more than 10,000 Steps under his belt, Professor Corneel Vandelanotte from Central Queensland University; as well as many other speakers, such as Brisbane Lions’ Breeanna Brock who shared the journey of women’s AFL, and presented new ideas, programs, products and networks. Tracy Barkham, our exuberant Executive Officer not only got us to meetings each month, but kept us out of the red with her event organising skills and dedication. Thanks to the Regional Council members and all those (you know who you are) that assisted throughout the year with events and our State Conference. I’d like to offer a special thanks to Angela Wright who though continuing to be a member will give up her Deputy President and Councillor role in October, after many years guiding, leading, questioning and supporting PLA Queensland and the industry in open space planning, outdoor recreation and nature play.

**I’D LIKE TO OFFER A  
SPECIAL THANKS TO  
ANGELA WRIGHT  
WHO THOUGH CONTINUING TO BE A  
MEMBER WILL GIVE UP HER DEPUTY  
PRESIDENT AND COUNCILLOR ROLE  
IN OCTOBER, AFTER MANY YEARS  
GUIDING, LEADING, QUESTIONING  
AND SUPPORTING PLA QUEENSLAND  
AND THE INDUSTRY IN OPEN SPACE  
PLANNING, OUTDOOR RECREATION  
AND NATURE PLAY.**





# SA/NT PRESIDENT REPORT



**Suzanne Suter**  
President  
SA/NT

Due to having a new President and Executive Officer at the commencement of 2017-18, SA/NT experienced a phase of learning, review, setting new directions and evolution over the year.

Early in the financial year, the Regional Council agreed that there needed to be a greater emphasis on:

- Raising the profile of SA/NT
- Increasing the number and range of events and services
- Seeking sponsorships and funding
- Building relationships and partnerships

Consistent with the Regional Council findings, the National Treasurer questioned the viability of SA/NT early in 2018 and it was agreed that support would be provided by the National Office to assist SA/NT to progress and be more viable. In addition, it was recognised that SA/NT needed time to increase its viability through targeted change, new activities and time to seek funding.

Our State Conference was held on 7 June 2018 in partnership with Recreation SA, with targeted quality speakers and a balance of topics that are relevant to members. SA/NT played a lead role in planning for and arranging the conference. Feedback on the conference was very positive and the net profit for the conference was \$27,985.68 with the profit to PLA being \$13,992.84. There is a commitment to hold the 2018-19 conference with Recreation SA (due to grant funding requirements). However, the appropriateness of continuing to hold a combined event and share profits beyond 2018-19 needs to be assessed.

Three other events were held over the financial year including:

- Open Space Assets: Dealing with New Challenges
- Sport in Open Space
- Recreation in Open Space

In addition, planning commenced for four other events to be held in the first part of the 2018-19 financial year.

As part of the review and evolution of SA/NT, a new framework was established at the end of the financial year. This included establishing three sub groups within the Regional Council to share the involvement, address issues and gaps and increase the activities offered through the Council. The three groups are:

- Strategy Group (led by Suzanne Suter (President) and includes Kevin Lowe, Alicia Clutterham and the Executive Officer)
- Professional Development Group (led by Amy Loechel and involving the Council's three new members from 1 July, Stacey Dutton, Julia Wallace and Rick Gower as well as input by the Executive Officer)
- Communications Group (led by John Wilkinson with David Cooney)

To begin to raise the profile of SA/NT and broaden our industry role, meetings were arranged with the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing as well as the Shadow Minister, the General Manager of the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing and ORS grant funding and strategic planning staff (6 meetings in total).

The appointment of the Eastern Business Enterprise Centre (EBEC) to the Secretariat and Executive Officer role ended on 30 June 2018 due to EBEC losing Federal funding and not having the staff or resources to service the role. However, negotiations were held with Allison Bretones of Allison Miller & Associates and a contract was developed and commenced on 1 July 2018. Allison who has considerable industry experience, is the new SA/NT Executive Officer and a strong Regional Council is in place with three new young members (including one Generate member) and a highly committed group.

SA/NT is now in a more positive position and we aim to progress over 2018-19 and address other gaps including the need for a stronger link with the Northern Territory, stronger relationships with other industry bodies and an increased focus on industry advocacy and guiding industry directions.

A photograph of a conference booth. On the left, a blue sign with white text reads 'TRAILS SA'. To the right, a white sign with blue text reads 'PARKS'. Two men are standing in front of the booth. The man on the left is wearing a dark suit and glasses, and the man on the right is wearing a light-colored shirt and a dark jacket. They are both looking towards the camera.

**SA/NT IS NOW IN A MORE POSITIVE POSITION AND WE AIM TO PROGRESS OVER 2018-19 AND ADDRESS OTHER GAPS INCLUDING THE NEED FOR A STRONGER LINK WITH THE NORTHERN TERRITORY, STRONGER RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER INDUSTRY BODIES AND AN INCREASED FOCUS ON INDUSTRY ADVOCACY AND GUIDING INDUSTRY DIRECTIONS.**

# VIC/TAS PRESIDENT REPORT



**Darren Bennett**  
President  
VIC/TAS

I AM CONTINUINGLY  
IMPRESSED BY THE  
PROFESSIONALISM,  
INNOVATION AND  
PASSION THAT EXISTS  
THROUGHOUT OUR  
MEMBERSHIP AND  
THE COMMITMENT  
INDIVIDUALS HAVE  
TO ENSURING OUR  
COMMUNITY SPACES  
ARE THE BEST THEY  
CAN BE AND DELIVER  
VALUABLE HEALTH AND  
WELLBEING OUTCOMES.

Being my first year as the Vic/Tas Regional President I have a renewed appreciation for the fantastic people who are involved in our industry. I am continually impressed by the professionalism, innovation and passion that exists throughout our membership and the commitment individuals have to ensuring our community spaces are the best they can be and deliver valuable health and wellbeing outcomes.

This year the State Conference returned to GMHBA Stadium in Geelong (the venue for the inaugural State Conference) and like the Stadium, the conference has become bigger and better as the years progress with the event attracting 253 delegates from 42 LGAs throughout Victoria and Tasmania. Now in its fifth year, the Conference continues to deliver a fantastic professional development and networking event for the sector. A highlight of this year's Conference was no doubt the keynote address by Dr Bridie O'Donnell, Head, Office for Women in Sport and Recreation. Bridie provided an overview of the role of her agency and importance of partnerships with local government to further enhance the involvement of girls and women in sport and recreation.

Congratulations to the four Vic/Tas Region Awards of Excellence winners that went on to win a 2017 National Award. These were the Leisure and Open Space Planning Award – Creating Better Parks (Brimbank City Council); Research Project Award - Sport and Recreation Spatial (Federation University and Victorian University); David Aldous Student of the Year Award - Jackson Holland; Emerging Leader of the Year Award - Jo Massoud (Shire of Nillumbik).

Advocacy on industry issues continues to be a key focus for Vic/Tas Region Board. A highlight this year was the State Sporting Association and Local Government Forum held in November at the Hume Global Learning Centre, which attracted over 90 participants. The Forum has led to the establishment of three sub-committees which will investigate opportunities to potentially resolve some of the challenges highlighted at the forum.

Other advocacy involvements included PLA providing comments on the Reforming the Victorian Planning Provision discussion paper and continuing its involvement on the Project Reference Group for the Value of Sport to Victoria project commissioned by the State Government.

This year's Board elections saw a number of members re-elected and we also welcomed a number of new Board members who will no doubt provide renewed energy and commitment to an already highly functioning Board. I would like to thank the members of the Board for their support and advice and the increasing number of other members who have given up their time to be involved in sub-committees or assisting with the organisation of seminars and other activities. I would also like to thank Bruce Fordham for his tireless commitment to PLA. Bruce resigned as a co-opted member of the Board in February of this year. Bruce is a past President of PLA National, past Vic/Tas Region President, a Frank Stewart Award recipient, and also a great bloke!

As our products and profile continue to grow, so does our sponsorship. Thanks to all of our sponsors for their interest and support of the industry, particularly our Region sponsors Syngenta, Toro, SportEng, Glascott Landscape and Civil, Tennis Australia and Sport and Recreation Victoria, our State Conference major sponsors, GreenLife Group and Sport and Recreation Victoria, and our Awards Dinner major sponsor, Urban Maintenance Systems (UMS).

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the fantastic support the Secretariat team of Richard and Pamela Simon provide. Without their intimate knowledge of the industry, passion, professionalism and commitment, we would not be able to continue to deliver the outstanding networking and professional development opportunities to our members. Outstanding effort Pamela and Richard – thank you!



# WA PRESIDENT REPORT



Joanne Smith  
President  
WA

The previous year was an exciting time of change in the WA Region, while we settled into the new state government structure and priorities. With significant infrastructure planning and construction projects coming to completion, we have seen the metropolitan and outer region landscapes change and mature. These projects have also required careful consideration of environmental, cultural and social impacts to ensure people have access to quality community facilities, natural, recreation and sport spaces and challenging programs for physical and mental health.

A big thank you to Rossalind Ellis for her support to the Regional Council as she takes on a more challenging work portfolio. We are also very grateful for the enormous support and sage guidance from Bob Welch for the previous eleven years in the governance and treasurer roles on the WA Council. In this time he has devoted his efforts to using his influence and vast experience to develop policy, bring together peak issue presenters and new ideas to our industry. Bob was the recipient of the John Graham award for his contribution and dedication to a number of West Australian sporting organisations throughout his life. He has also been awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia, for services as a sports

administrator; Australian Sports Medal; World Lifesaving Citation of Merit; Fellow, Australian Society of Association Executives; Surf Life Saving Australia Volunteer of the Year 1998; Life Member Surf Life Saving Australia, SLISA WA, Scarborough SLSC. We will miss Bob's high quality advice on the Regional Council, but we very much welcome him working with the Regional Council on professional development events.

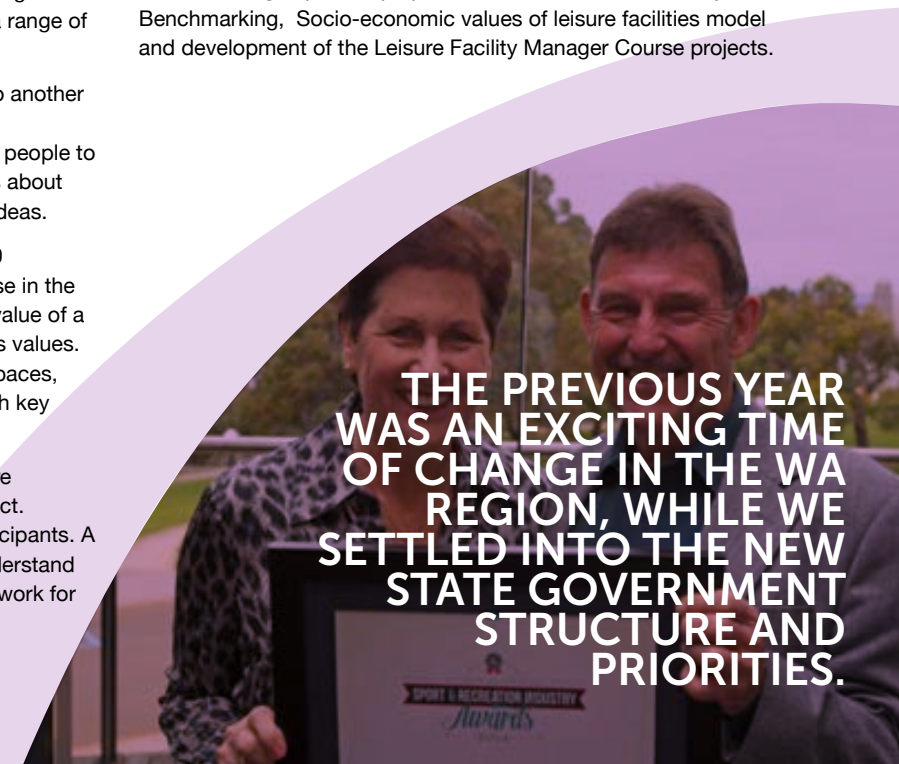
We are very lucky to enjoy working with partners and sponsors leading our industry, setting new goals to meet new challenges. Our professional development calendar for 2017-2018 is testimony to this commitment and is reflected in professional development event participation.

- The popular Playspaces technical tours are quickly sold out and the Perth northern tour on 15 September was no exception. The bus and following vehicles introduced state and local government, not for profit and commercial professionals to the six of the best new play space developments to meet the key project members.
- With current concerns for terrorism threats to community events, we ran an Events Risk Management Workshop over two days in September and October providing tools for managing event risks and ensuring it is success, complimented with a range of other valuable resources.
- The second Playspace tour on 9 November headed to another six of the latest in Perth. These tours are an excellent opportunity for designers, facilitators and operational people to networks, see other Council's patches, ask questions about parks and reserves and play spaces and share their ideas.
- An interactive place making workshop was held on 20 November and included a practical case study exercise in the Town of Vincent to demonstrate how to measure the value of a space with evidence-based measurement of a space's values. This helps decision makers with investing in priority spaces, applying the appropriate treatments and engaging with key stakeholders.
- Basics of employment law for parks, sports and leisure employees and managers, may sound like a dry subject. However, both sessions were filled with attentive participants. A reputable workplace relations lawyer helped us to understand the importance of understanding the regulatory framework for employer management.

- In February a range of leisure facility supervisors, coordinators and managers participated in a seminar for managing customer service and marketing for success.
- After a review of the PLA National Awards of Excellence the WA Region held a briefing session to guide organisations on identifying the right category for their industry leading project or program, along with pointers on addressing selection criteria and including evidence based quality.

This year we held our biennial two day regional conference over five concurrent streams of presentations, workshops and tours. More than 300 attended the packed program addressing leisure facility management, leisure and social planning, parks & environment, events & recreational tourism, community sports and leadership & management. Technical tours to the central Perth Yagan Square, Scarborough Beach pool and precinct, Cockburn Aquatic and Recreation Centre and the amazing Optus Stadium opened in January on the Swan River Burswood peninsula, showcased the high standard of our region's leisure facilities.

The Regional Council skilfully supported by our Executive Officer and Administrative and Events Officer who also continue with administrating important projects such as the Leisure Facility Benchmarking, Socio-economic values of leisure facilities model and development of the Leisure Facility Manager Course projects.

A photograph of a woman and a man smiling. The woman is on the left, wearing a patterned top. The man is on the right, wearing a dark shirt. In the foreground, there is a sign that reads "SPORT & RECREATION INDUSTRY Awards".

**THE PREVIOUS YEAR  
WAS AN EXCITING TIME  
OF CHANGE IN THE WA  
REGION, WHILE WE  
SETTLED INTO THE NEW  
STATE GOVERNMENT  
STRUCTURE AND  
PRIORITIES.**

# FINANCE REPORT

## Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

|   | 2018           | 2017           |
|---|----------------|----------------|
|   | \$             | \$             |
| Revenue   | 1,856,388      | 1,529,523      |
| Other income  | 3,631          | 3,739          |
| Conference expenses                                   | (560,320)      | (323,556)      |
| Other expenses  | (1,177,547)    | (1,094,543)    |
| <b>Surplus/(deficit) before income tax</b>            | <b>122,152</b> | <b>115,163</b> |
| Income tax benefit/(expense)                          | 102,311        | (56,114)       |
| <b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>                 | <b>224,463</b> | <b>59,049</b>  |
| <b>Other comprehensive income</b>                     | <b>-</b>       | <b>-</b>       |
| <b>Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year</b> | <b>224,463</b> | <b>59,049</b>  |

## Statement of Financial Position

|                                 | 2018             | 2017           |
|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
|                                 | \$               | \$             |
| <b>ASSETS</b>                   |                  |                |
| CURRENT ASSETS                  |                  |                |
| Cash and cash equivalents       | 749,499          | 450,749        |
| Trade and other receivables     | 249,978          | 175,611        |
| Other assets                    | 51,290           | 46,003         |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>     | <b>1,050,767</b> | <b>672,363</b> |
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS              |                  |                |
| Deferred tax assets             | 217,842          | 115,531        |
| Intangible assets               | 27,659           | -              |
| <b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b> | <b>245,501</b>   | <b>115,531</b> |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>             | <b>1,296,268</b> | <b>787,894</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>              |                  |                |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES             |                  |                |
| Trade and other payables        | 145,168          | 83,755         |
| Current tax liabilities         | 44,714           | 13,140         |
| Other financial liabilities     | 469,529          | 278,605        |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>        | <b>659,411</b>   | <b>375,500</b> |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>               | <b>636,857</b>   | <b>412,394</b> |



# FINANCE REPORT

## Statement of Changes in Equity

2018

|  | Accumulated<br>Surplus<br>\$ |
|--|------------------------------|
| Balance at 1 July 2017                       | 412,394                      |
| Profit attributable to members of the entity | 224,463                      |
| Balance at 30 June 2018                      | <u>636,857</u>               |

2017

|   | Accumulated<br>Surplus<br>\$ |
|---|------------------------------|
| Balance at 1 July 2016                        | 353,345                      |
| Surplus attributable to members of the entity | 59,049                       |
| Balance at 30 June 2017                       | <u>412,394</u>               |

## Statement of Cash Flows

|   | 2018<br>\$      | 2017<br>\$     |
|---|-----------------|----------------|
| <b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>        |                 |                |
| Receipts from customers                             | 1,806,348       | 1,438,443      |
| Payments to suppliers and employees                 | (1,650,167)     | (1,472,628)    |
| Interest received                                   | 3,631           | 3,739          |
| Receipt from grants                                 | 166,597         | 131,958        |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities | <u>326,409</u>  | <u>101,512</u> |
| <b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>        |                 |                |
| Payments for intangible assets                      | (27,659)        | -              |
| Net cash used by investing activities               | <u>(27,659)</u> | <u>-</u>       |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents held      | 298,750         | 101,512        |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year      | 450,749         | 349,237        |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year  | <u>749,499</u>  | <u>450,749</u> |

A full version of the Parks and Leisure Australia Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2018, including the supporting notes is available online at [www.parksleisure.com.au](http://www.parksleisure.com.au)





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